



## News Notes

**Tax filing deadline** - Due to April 15 being a Saturday, tax-filers have an extra 48 hours to get their returns postmarked. The deadline is Midnight Monday.

**Special Olympics needs volunteers** - Special Olympics Hawaii is currently recruiting volunteers for its 2006 State Summer Games May 26 to 28 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Special Olympic Athletes work very hard to overcome many challenges and they can with volunteers support. Team Hickam members can help to build self-esteem, instill pride and bring joy to the lives of hundreds of Special Olympics Hawaii Athletes. Whether volunteers are looking for inspiration or they want to inspire, Special Olympics can touch their lives.

Hickam members can help to make a difference in the community by volunteering for Special Olympics Hawaii. For more information, visit [www.specialolympicshawaii.org](http://www.specialolympicshawaii.org) or contact Cindy at 943-8808, extension 27.

**Hickam Youth Fest** - In observance and celebration of April as the Month of the Military Child, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Alcohol Awareness Month, the Hickam Community Action Team is hosting the Hickam Youth Fest April 28 at the community center. Crafts, games, and activities for children up to 2-years-old will be available from 9 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. for youths 2 years and older.

**Sexual Assault Awareness Breakfast** - 15th Airlift Wing Sexual Assault Response Program is sponsoring an Awareness Breakfast April 24 from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., at the Hickam Officers Club. The guest speaker will be Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director of the Sexual Abuse Treatment Center at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children. The cost is \$10 for club members and \$12 for non-

See NOTES, A8

## In this week's Kukini



## 17th OWS forecasts future B1

Classifieds	B7-10
Crossword	B2
Movies	B3
Perspective	A2
Services	A10

# Hickam welcomes Patriot World Tour

By Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman  
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Patriot World Tour performs at Hickam Monday.

The tour, including Lee Greenwood, Restless Heart, Dick Hardwick, Mary Therese and the New England Patriots Cheerleaders, performs on the Mall beginning at 6 p.m. Monday. All DOD card holders are invited to attend the event.

The tour kicked off April 5 going to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, Kadena Air Base, Japan, Kunsan Air Base, Korea, Misawa Air Base, Japan,

three deployed locations in Southwest Asia and completing their tour here at Hickam.

The Headquarters United States Central Command, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces and Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command are co-sponsoring the tour. The Air Force Band of the Pacific has been instrumental in helping to coordinate the Pacific portion of the tour.

The event's opening act is a

See PATRIOT, A4



Graphic illustration by Sueann Carter

The Patriot World Tour concludes at Hickam Monday on the mall at 6 p.m. All DOD ID card holders are invited to attend.

## #4 on ground at Hickam



Photo by Mike Dey

The Air Force's newest C-17 was delivered to Hickam Saturday. The aircraft was flown in by Admiral William Fallon, U.S. Pacific Command, commander, from the Boeing Plant in Long Beach, Calif. During a ceremony held on the flightline, members of Team Hickam's 535th Airlift Squadron and the 204th Air National Guard Squadron were recognized for what each component brings to the Air Force mission.

## CATM eases through down range hurdles

By Kirsten Tacker  
Kukini Photojournalist

The Combat Arms Training and Maintenance team travels worldwide to set up CATM shops to carry out parts and weapons repair, issue guns, ammo and provide security on the weapons.

Often deploying without their pallet stocked full of parts and tools to

complete the mission, they have to make do with the circumstances presented before them.

Completing a job detail at Balad Air Base, Iraq, are two members of the CATM team, Staff Sgt. Mike Woods and Staff Sgt. Darin Pierce, 15th Security Forces Squadron.

"Sergeant Pierce and Sergeant Woods are able to incorporate their exten-

sive weapons knowledge they normally relate to the students they instruct here at Hickam and apply it to the mission at Balad," said Tech. Sgt. Shaun Hermes, 15th SFS.

In Balad they manage the armory operations for the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. Sergeant Pierce and Sergeant Woods are responsible for the repair

and maintenance of all military ground weapons assigned to the installation.

"We are supposed to deploy with a vice and a bench grinder., all the hand tools, drills, wrenches, sockets, torque wrenches, gauges and all that kind of stuff," said Staff Sgt. Erik Sprague,

See CATM, A4

## Training 'successful' for coalition partners

By Capt. Yvonne Levardi  
Kenney Headquarters (P)  
Public Affairs

Three Air Force B-1s recently flew more than 6,000 miles and more than 16 hours to participate in the Royal Australian Air Force's ACES SOUTH exercise, providing realistic training for both coalition partners.

"It was a tremendous success for all parties," said Lt. Col. Thomas Curran, 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron commander. "We got very positive feedback

from the host unit and met all our training objectives."

The colonel's assessment was echoed by Capt. Matt Brooks, a 34th EBS assistant director of operations.

"Every mission, 34th EBS B-1s were 'on time, on target' which was important to the success of our mission and the overall training objectives of the Australian forces," Captain Brooks said.

The ACES SOUTH exercise involved large-force employment for the RAAF Weapon School, and the B-1s each flew one sortie during the three-day exercise

as simulated Red Air bombers conducting anti-ship strikes off the south-east Australian coast, said Colonel Curran. Blue Air forces consisted of F/A-18s and F-111s flown by the Weapon School students.

"We flew with a variety of RAAF fighters, including the F/A-18s, F-111s and Hawks," Colonel Curran said. "The training closely replicates the types of mission profiles we fly in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom."

The missions the B-1s flew, called "Green

Lightning", were more than 16 hour round-robin missions from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam to Australia., re-fueled by Wisconsin and Mississippi Air National Guard units.

Colonel Curran said for many of the new aircrew, this was their first experience flying 16-hour plus missions.

"It was also a chance to integrate with dedicated air-to-air escorts and other support assets, while going against a very capable adversary," Colonel Curran

See PARTNERS, A4

## 17th OWS takes on bigger workload

By Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman  
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 17th Operational Weather Squadron completed their merger with the 20th Operational Weather Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan this week. This merger has been slowly phased in over the past year, involving many moving parts, including manpower, equipment and infrastructure changes. This merger was celebrated on Thursday with a traditional Hawaiian blessing ceremony. The primary mission of the 17th OWS is to provide Pacific Air Force's warfighters supporting Combat Weather Teams with tailored operational weather forecasts and products to build impact assessments across the spectrum of missions, according to Lt. Col. Stephen Romolo, 17th OWS commander.

"The 17th OWS is very unique in that it also works together with the Navy as partners at the Joint Typhoon Warning Center," he said. "JTWC provides tropical cyclone forecast and warnings for the Department of Defense and U.S. agencies in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility."

The Navy isn't the only sis-

See OWS, A3

## HCH offers open house to Team Hickam

Hickam Community Housing opens one of its new homes for all of Team Hickam to see during its first open house event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 22 at 111 Liliwai (home located caddy corner of the Child Development Center).

The new home is one of HCH's Junior NCO designs. Equipped with new appliances, central air conditioning and other amenities, the 1,630 square foot home has three bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms.

The open house is HCH's response to the many requests its received from many resi-

See OPEN HOUSE, A4

# Education and the Airman

By Honorable Michael Wynne  
Secretary of the Air Force

As the most technologically superior and powerful Air Force in the world, we are all aware that we must maintain our intellectual superiority with lifelong education for all Airmen – officer and enlisted. But this marks only the beginning.

As an expeditionary force, we find ourselves deployed to foreign countries with increased responsibilities in new mission areas. To ensure success, we need to go beyond our typical Air Force and Joint Force warfighting skills. Therefore, I am spearheading refined initial and developmental education for all ranks. You will see basic military training increased by two-and-a-half weeks to ensure our new Airmen enter our Air Force battle ready. Officers will see changes such as cultural and language classes added to their curriculums. These are just a few of the additions that will be critical to our overall Force Development construct.

Understanding different languages and different cultures is especially important in the Global War on Terror, where we work with many coalition partners in distant lands. In that regard, I was inspired by the innovative Airmen I met during my recent trip to PACAF. In Masawa, I had breakfast with some Airmen who had just returned from an AEF deployment. Due to their established relationship with the Japanese, they were able to work side-by-side with Japan Air Self-Defense Force members a world away in Kuwait.

We must take the Air Force’s basic educational foundation to the next level and be relentless in our continued pursuit to become knowledge-enabled Airmen. All Total Force Airmen have the opportunity to incorporate higher education into their development, through Air Force sponsored degrees, the Community College of the Air Force, or with tuition assistance for civilian institutions.

Make education a priority

throughout your career, and doors will continue to open. Your achievements will become a part of your record of success for all evaluations.

Developing people to lead the world’s best air, space and cyberspace force takes the personal commitment of all Airmen – a commitment to focus on developing ourselves and encouraging our fellow Airmen – to learn as much as possible about the complexities of our profession of arms. I am committed to supporting you as you take on these new challenges.

In the words of former President John F. Kennedy, we must “...think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.” I am extremely proud of your contributions to protecting America. Your continued education will help keep our country strong for decades to come.

## Networking: *It’s about teamwork, taking care of people*

By Col. Alan Hunt  
715th Air Mobility Operations  
Group commander

How many of us have heard or used the phrase, “It’s not what you know, but who you know?” Does it conjure up a good or bad taste in your mouth? I guess that depends on the context and application.

Networking has been around longer than any of us reading this article. Why is that? Because it works. I happen to be a huge proponent of networking, not because it helps this colonel get what he needs when he needs it, but it’s a great way to get to know people and help others.

Second to knowledge and expertise, networking is perhaps the most powerful tool an individual possesses to get something done. Sure, we could do many things on our own, but why work hard when we can work smart?

The challenge for some, particularly introverts, is getting outside of their comfort zone to make an effort to meet or get to know someone. However, being an extrovert does not necessarily provide a recipe for success either.

The key to networking is getting to know someone that has a different set of skills, expertise, hobbies, etc., than we do and being able to tap into their competencies for assistance when we need it. The idea is not to “use” someone; rather, it is utilizing their knowledge and expertise to help us get something accomplished. It’s another form of teamwork.

We can use networking to ask

a friend to update us on the status of a project or an upcoming sale they heard about or perhaps something a bit bigger such as having a friend or a “friend of a friend” help us get an autograph from someone famous for a fundraiser. Carpooling is also a form of networking.

I propose most of us have networked at some time in our lives and not even known it or thought about it. I believe networking must be employed with the Air Force Core Values in mind to serve as a gut check and help us determine whether or not we’re networking appropriately or not.

If networking uses undue influence to affect something immoral or unethical, then it simply shouldn’t be done. That said, most often, networking is appropriately used to help someone get something done.

My challenge to you is to look at your sphere of friends and acquaintances, consider the knowledge and experience they possess, and determine what’s missing from your desired skill set or knowledge base. Then, make an effort to find someone that fills the void and get to know them.

Remember, networking is a two-way street, so there is an equal and opposite potential of having someone come to you as a good source for something. Most of all, enjoy meeting new people.

Life’s all about getting to know people taking care of people, no matter what profession, service, or calling we have, and helping each other out to the best of our ability, in accordance with the Air Force Core Values.

## Team Hickam halfway to the future

By Col.  
Bill “Goose” Changose  
15th Airlift Wing commander

Last week Admiral William Fallon, U.S. Pacific Command commander, delivered our fourth C-17. The arrival of this aircraft marked not only the half-way point for receipt of the entire inventory of eight, but also put enough aircraft at Hickam to move us to a new level. Starting now we have enough capability that the Kenney Warfighting Headquarters can officially task Hickam C-17s to perform airlift missions. Although this may seem a

minor milestone, it marks a new chapter in Team Hickam’s history.

While we continue to change and strive to be the best as a unit, the Air Force as a whole is doing the same. Regardless of what specialty you hold, or where you’re stationed, our senior leaders count on us. As Airmen we have a “tradition of change.” We understand that innovation is what allows us to adapt and be better prepared for the whole range of contingencies. Integral to that is education. Please take a moment to read and take to heart Secretary Wynne’s letter



Colonel Bill “Goose” Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander signed three proclamations for the month of April.

on this page.

Sky Warriors, have a great Easter Weekend. Please come out and enjoy the Patriot Tour on

Monday night, it promises to be a GREAT show. As always, watch out for each other, be safe – we’ll see you Monday.

## Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first.

If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander’s Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I’ll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

**Unmarked fire hydrants**

**Comment:** It has come to my attention that here on base the fire hydrants are unmarked. I spoke with several people today and they could not give me an answer. So I bring this to you. My friend and I were out and about and she parked in front of one. Luckily for us I saw it and she moved the vehicle.

The hydrants are approximately one to two feet from the road and the brown color blends with everything

else. Wouldn't you see this as a problem if a fire was to occur and someone was parked in front of it? I saw these unmarked hydrants in the housing area. I thank you for taking time to read this and hope to see something is done about it.

**Response:** I appreciate your concerns for the safety of our housing residents. However, Air Force Standards direct all fire hydrants to be painted brown. Fire department personnel are trained on the location of all fire hydrants on Hickam. To aid in identification there is a blue reflector in the middle of the road that shows the location of hydrants.

As you can imagine, Wing Instructions on Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision prohibit motor vehicles from parking within 10 feet of a fire hydrant. If you see a vehicle parked illegally in front of a fire hydrant call the Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk at 449-2677. Thanks again for your concerns.

**Kudos**

**Comment:** I just wanted to express a thank you to whomever

sponsors the dinners for families of deployed Airmen. I suppose it is the Family Readiness Center that takes charge of all of these events.

I recently attended the St Patty’s Day dinner along with my two children. The kids were well entertained, and it was the first time that I had ever attended one of these events. Typically, I’ve been quite reserved about attending, as I really don’t “know” anyone whom is going to be there. But, this time I followed through and really enjoyed myself.

The dinner was great and the games were a lot of fun too. Bingo was a BIG hit. I have a difficult time meeting other families/spouses within my husband’s squadron as his shop is very tiny, and there are typically very few co-workers of his that are married. I finally had a chance to meet other “CE” wives out there for a change. It was a nice evening all around.

I also wanted to express my sincere thanks to Sgt. Lewis (CES) for the support that she has offered our family since we’ve been stationed here. She has gone above

and beyond her “call of duty”, and I know that I can count on her for anything if needed while my husband is deployed. We’ve had our fair share of medical issues within our immediate family’s need and her support for our family during the past year has been greatly appreciated. I just wanted to take a moment of my time and make sure she got her “credit due”.

**Response:** Thank you for recognizing the efforts of personnel assigned to the Airman and Family Readiness Center, and also for the outstanding efforts of Master Sgt. Sherrie Lewis, 15th Civil Engineer Squadron, for all the support and assistance she has provided you and your family over the past year. This is Team Hickam at it’s best, and their efforts to go “above and beyond” continue to amaze me. I am proud and honored to be a part of this team. Thanks again for your comments. Whatever assistance you may need, Team Hickam is always here for you.

## Hickam Diamond Tips



### Female Hair Standards

Hair color/highlights/frosting will not be faddish and will be natural looking for human beings (blonde/brunette/natural red/black/gray). No shaved head or flat top hairstyles for women. Synthetic hair can be worn as long as it meets safety and mission requirements. Braids, micro-braids and cornrows are authorized for women.

Source: 97th Air Force  
Uniform Board  
Questions? Contact  
your First Sergeant

The Hickam Kukini is published by Honolulu Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 15th Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Content of the Hickam Kukini does not necessarily represent the official views of, or endorsement by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or Honolulu Advertiser of the products of services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office of Hickam AFB, Hawaii. All photographs are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Correspondence may be sent to 15thAW/PAL, 800 Scott Circle, Hickam AFB, HI 96853-5328.

Hickam Kukini staff . . . . . 449-6789  
E-mail address . . . . . hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil  
Fax . . . . . 449-3017  
Kukini Online . . . . . www2.hickam.af.mil/wingpa/news.html  
Advertising . . . . . 521-9111  
Hickam Straight Talk Line . . . . . 449-6789

### Hickam Kukini Editorial Staff

Col. William Changose . . . . . Commander, 15th AW  
1st Lt. Craig Savage . . . . . Chief, Public Affairs  
Staff Sgt. Tom Czerwinski . . . . . Editor  
Kirsten Tacker . . . . . Photojournalist  
Sueann Carter . . . . . Layout/Design  
Joe Novotny . . . . . Technical Adviser

Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

### Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center  
449-0300  
Life Skills Support Center  
449-0175  
Law Enforcement Desk  
449-6373  
Base Chaplain  
449-1754  
Military Family Abuse Shelter  
533-7125  
SARC Hotline  
449-7272

# 65th Airlift Squadron has quiet professionals

**By Lt. Col. Bob Holba**  
65th Airlift Squadron commander

Amongst all the focus and excitement over our new flying mission at Hickam over the past few months, another group of professional aviators assigned to the 65th Airlift Squadron, “Special Missions Hawaii,” the first active-duty flying squadron of the 15th Airlift Wing, continue to quietly execute their world-wide special airlift missions in support of numerous senior military and government officials.

During the first quarter of 2006, the jointly-focused 65th AS flew over 500 hours in direct support of Admiral William Fallon, U.S. Pacific Command commander, Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander, and Army General Burwell Bell III, United Nations Command and Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command commander, and the Secretary of the Air Force.

Using two highly-specialized C-37 and C-40 aircraft, the 65th AS planned and executed more than 120 high-visibility sorties spanning the globe together with its partners in the Kenney Headquarters Air Mobility Division/Executive Airlift Services, both active duty and contractor personnel, and Gulfstream and Boeing aircraft maintenance Contractor Logistics Support.

In January, the squadron deployed both aircraft to Christchurch, New Zealand in support of a combined USPACOM and PACAF mission, dubbed “Ice” to New Zealand and Antarctica.

The crews were tasked with flying a number of challenging approaches throughout New Zealand, where high-terrain and limited maneuvering area tested each pilot’s skills.

In late January and early February, another C-40 crew flew Admiral Fallon on a nine-day mission from Hawaii to Katmandu, Nepal in the shadow of 29,035 foot Mt. Everest to meet with the embattled King of Nepal for high-level talks, and then on to South Korea and Northern Japan to meet with other foreign military and



Courtesy photo

**Lt. Col. Jeff Spear, 65th Airlift Squadron, flies a C-40 on a foggy approach into Katmandu, Nepal, in support of Admiral William Fallon, U.S. Pacific Command commander, and his staff during a recent visit.**

civilian leaders.

On the first day of the trip, the 15-person crew, commanded by Capt. Norse Berg, set a squadron record by logging more than 20.2 hours of flying time in the C-40 in a single crew-duty day.

“The first day of the trip didn’t go as planned due to very low-lying fog in Katmandu,” said Capt. Berg. “However, the support we received from the PACAF Air Mobility Division planners, our crew chiefs and our various hosts in Southeast Asia was, as always, exceptional. We ended up calling a lot of audibles on that trip due to external factors, mainly terrible weather, but everyone pulled together to ultimately transport the Admiral’s party exactly where

they needed to be.”

With a 99.7 percent on-time launch reliability rate in the last three years, the squadron’s “quiet professionals” consistently deliver safe, comfortable and reliable five-star service to all of its customers.

Later in February, the pace didn’t slow. While the C-37 crews were busy flying both Western Pacific and CONUS-bound special airlift missions, a 65th AS C-40 crew transported Admiral Fallon on an 11-day, around-the-world mission, which made historic stops within the U.S. Central Command theater and enabled first-of-its kind U.S. PACOM commander visits to airfields in Iraq and Afghanistan. With the increased threat levels

associated in the CENTCOM AOR, the crews had to take extra time to properly train for tactical arrivals and departures into certain airfields.

In March, the hurried pace continued. The C-37 flew General Hester across Guam, the Philippines and Indonesia in support of the Global War on Terror. After spending two days at Hickam, the newly-appointed Secretary of the Air Force, the Honorable Michael Wynne, toured seven other PACAF bases as part of his PACAF orientation with General Hester aboard a C-40.

“Overall it was a great mission,” said Lt. Col. Jeff Spear, flight commander.”

Colonel Spear is a prior C-130 evaluator pilot and the 15th Airlift Wing chief of safety, and was flying his final operational mission before his retirement later this month after a 21-year Air Force career.

“Once again, our Boeing maintenance team gave us the jet in great condition and the mission planners at PACAF did an excellent job pre-coordinating our arrivals at each base,” he said. “Our flight attendants provided impeccable in-flight service, and our communications system operators kept the party well connected to their staffs back at home. Our crew chiefs worked closely with Transient Alert at each base to ensure our turn times were minimal, and the base operations and weather support teams provided superb support for the pilots.”

Colonel Spear summed it up by noting, “To the casual observer, what we do may look easy, but there are a lot of moving parts going on behind the scenes, all of which take a large amount of planning, very precise coordination and a keen attention to detail. On every mission, multiple issues are being worked to get the party where they need to be safely, comfortably and on time. Our goal is to provide that service quietly, so the party can focus on their mission, wherever they are going.”

During the first quarter of 2006, the 65th Airlift Squadron’s “quiet professionals” certainly exceeded their goal.

## TriWest DVD provides help for troops suffering from combat related stress

**PHOENIX** — To help ensure that America’s troops who are suffering from combat stress get the help they need, TriWest Healthcare Alliance, the Department of Defense contractor administering the TRICARE program in the West Region, has produced a post-deployment support DVD featuring advice, information and encouragement from behavioral health experts.

“With some reports of nearly one-third of our returning service members exhibiting mental health or combat stress-related symptoms, we produced this DVD to help them and their families seek treatment early in an effort to help prevent some of the long-term consequences of combat stress or even PTSD,” said David J. McIntyre, Jr., president and CEO of TriWest. “Combat stress can devastate families, relation-

ships and careers while leaving those who suffer from it feeling helpless and even suicidal and the stigma of seeking treatment.”

“This DVD has successfully de-mystified many of the concerns associated with the behavioral health matters of a soldier’s post-deployment,” said Karen Meadows-McGraw, the Family Support coordinator for a battalion of the California National Guard.

The 38-minute Getting Home DVD features behavioral health experts detailing various aspects of combat stress and describes symptoms those suffering from combat stress may exhibit, such as anger, sleeplessness and night sweats.

“Getting Home” also stresses the importance of getting help early and provides resources and information about treatment options available through TRICARE, the

military’s health care program, which is ranked as the nation’s number-one health program in customer satisfaction.

“I was impressed with the DVD. This is the best one I’ve seen yet on the subject,” said Ronald Emerich, Family Programs Professional, Nevada National Guard. “The soldiers’ stories are outstanding. The guys coming back are having a hard time coping, and it will really help them to hear these stories and say to themselves maybe I do have a problem.”

TriWest has also established a toll-free behavioral health hotline at 866-284-3743 offering service members and their families’ assistance 24-hours a day. In addition, TriWest has launched an extensive behavioral health portal at [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com). Getting Home DVDs can be ordered through the Web site.

## 535th AS gets new commander



Photo by Angela Elbern

**Col. Steven Groenheim, 15th Operations Group, commander, passes the 535th Airlift Squadron Guidon to incoming commander, Lt. Col. Scott Shapiro, formerly assigned to the 89th AW, while outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Christopher Davis looks on. Colonel Davis will continue to serve at Hickam with the Pacific Air Forces staff.**

### OWS, From A1

ter branch the 17th OWS works with. The squadron also supports U.S. Army Pacific and performs the role as the PACAF weather functional manager for Army support combat weather teams.

The 17th OWS is also a training facility for Airmen coming out of technical training to learn more about their job and earn their 5 skill level.

Something new to the 17th OWS mission is the added areas of responsibility. The 20th OWS was in charge of forecasting for Japan and Korea. Now the 17th OWS forecasts for those areas as well as the other areas it previously had to include Hawaii and Guam. With this change comes more manpower. Within 10 months the squadron has gone from hav-

ing 55 Airmen assigned to more than 120 assigned. The operations floor positions have more than doubled, while the amount of workload nearly tripled

“We had a great plan and we executed it,” said Colonel Romolo. “The completion of this merger demonstrated a lot of teamwork by numerous organizations. Our goal was a seamless transition between the two squadrons and I think we have achieved that. We will continue to carry out the great work the 20th OWS has been accomplishing for our units in Japan and South Korea.”

This change is one example of the Air Force adjusting its way of doing things.

“As manning cuts continue to be levied on everyone Air

Force-wide, the 17th OWS and Air Force Weather are leaning forward, aggressively working toward doing more with less,” said Colonel Romolo. “By streamlining processes and focusing on customer requirements, we have centralized our weather support to the war fighting headquarters, allowing us to better utilize our manpower and resources more efficiently.”

Many people may wonder why the Air Force needs a weather squadron. Why not just use the local news agencies forecasters?

“The 17th OWS analyzes and forecasts weather for more than 95 million square miles of data sparse ocean and land. Much of this area has no ‘local weather’ agency,” said

Maj. Chris Finta, 17th OWS Director of Operations. “The 17th OWS forecasts are tailored to support the unique platform and mission requirements of our DoD warfighters. During crises and contingencies the ‘local weather’ agencies may not be willing or able to provide reliable data and certainly can’t tailor this data to the unique operational needs of our warfighters.”

The changes to the unit have been big and are seen as a good move.

“The consolidation of support at the 17th OWS is a tremendous step forward in the right direction,” said Major Finta.

The challenge of forecasting for Japan while being in Hawaii has been good for Airman 1st Class Lew

Phillips, 17th OWS forecaster.

“I like that it’s different,” said Airman Phillips. “I enjoy this job because I’m always learning.”

Through the tough training these 17th OWS members are going through they are still excelling and completing their mission. The maturity and intelligence of the young Airman within the squadron impresses Senior Master Sgt. John Andrews, 17th OWS Superintendent

“In the midst of chaos, our folks are crushing their 5-level and 7-level (Career Development Courses),” said Sergeant Andrews. “We’ve had 11 Airmen score above 90 percent in the past year.

“While the majority of the base sleeps, our 24/7 work center does analytical thinking

all night long,” he said.

With the merger now complete, the 17th OWS commander is excited about the future.

“We are dedicated to providing the same quality of weather support to our brothers and sisters in Japan and South Korea,” said Colonel Romolo.” The 17th OWS is here to provide decision quality weather information across the full spectrum, from humanitarian assistance to major combat operations in the Asian-Pacific theater. We are the center of excellence for weather forecasting for this region. If you want to know about weather in the Asian-Pacific region, you come to the men and women 17th Operational Weather Squadron.”

# Close air support for mountain lion

**SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN)** – Coalition air forces are providing 24-hour close-air support for Operation Mountain Lion — an effort pitting Combined Forces Command Afghanistan ground forces in an offensive against Afghan insurgents.

Operations were initiated April 11 by coalition forces in cooperation with the Afghan National Army to establish security, deter the re-emergence of terrorism and enhance the sovereignty of Afghanistan.

“This operation is helping the government of Afghanistan set the security conditions so democratic processes can take root,” said Maj. Gen. Allen Peck, deputy Combined Forces Air Component commander. “Our job is to bring airpower to bear on the anti-Afghan forces and support the coalition troops on the ground.”

Air Force F-15 Eagles, A-10 Thunderbolt IIs and B-52 Stratofortresses are providing close-air support for troops on the ground who are rooting out insurgent sanctuaries and support networks. Global Hawk and RQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle aircraft are providing intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, while KC-135 Stratotankers and KC-10 Extenders are providing refueling support.

“Our objective is to assist the coalition forces and Afghan national security forces in defeating the Taliban and Al Qaeda,” General Peck said. “The coalition employs airpower every day to support Afghanistan’s democratically elected government in establishing regional stability and long term economic and political development.”

## CATM, From A1

15th SFS. “If we don’t take our pallet, we have to find that stuff or do the best we can.”

Usually when a two-person CATM team deploys they take a whole pallet. It is set up where the actual pallet can be turned into the maintenance shop with drop down windows.

“It is really just a big box that we put in all of our parts and supplies in,” said Sergeant Sprague. “Since there wasn’t enough time from the time we redeployed and Sergeant Woods deployed to build up another one, they weren’t able to take one with them.”

Sergeants Woods and Pierce had to work with what already existed at Balad.

Once the CATM team has built or improvised their maintenance

shop the weapons are concealed by lock and key under constant surveillance.

“We’ve placed orders for a solvent tank to help with weapons cleaning and a CCTV for added security,” said Sergeant Woods.

In addition to providing security on the weapons, CATM works with the security forces squadron for air base defense.

“So whenever the cops go to work whether a patrol is going out or just static post, they arm up,” said Sergeant Sprague.

The CATM team issues the guns and ammo to the security forces while deployed and sets up a parts and weapons repair program, so anytime a weapon breaks they can fix it.

“They also inspect all the

weapons, run gauges through them and make sure the weapons meet the tolerances the manufacturer specified,” said Sergeant Sprague. “If they don’t, the parts that fail have to be replaced. Whatever condition that made it fail the inspection has to be repaired.”

The only thing CATM can’t fix is the lower receiver, because that has the serial number on it. That is a weapon that can no longer be issued.

“We turn in the weapon and request another one,” said Sergeant Sprague.

During deployment the CATM team may conduct sustainment training.

“If they have the time and resources they’ll get some of the

cops together that may not be as proficient on weapons as they should be,” said Sergeant Sprague. “When they aren’t working or tasked with other things they’ll and do more training with them. If there is a range and ammo available they’ll take them out and let them shoot.”

Sergeants Woods and Pierce were able to put together sustainment training for the deployed security forces.

“We established a course of fire to keep the security forces folks up to speed on weapons handling and marksmanship,” concluded Sergeant Woods.

The CATM team is an essential part of the deployed forces in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

## PARTNERS, From A1

said. “Large force dissimilar air combat training opportunities are tough to come by with the current AEF cycle. This training is priceless for us.”

Captain Brooks summed up the experience in one word: Awesome.

“The B-1 aviators who flew the missions brought back a wealth of lessons learned and information that we can use to make ourselves a better combat unit and integrate better in the future with our allies,” he said.

Wing Commander Chris Huet, Commanding Officer, No. 2 Operational Conversion Unit, RAAF, said the participation of the B-1s in their exercise will help improve training and experience for the RAAF flyers as well.

“Our Fighter Combat Instructors are the RAAF equivalent of USAF Weapons Instructors and the training we give them is the most advanced we give any of our operators,” he said. “As we are a small force,

any additional aircraft can add to the realism and complexity of the scenarios. The B-1 in particular is an aircraft type distinctly different to those we currently operate. It will present a different problem for our aircrew and fighter controllers to solve.”

The RAAF fighter and strike aircraft train with USAF units about 2-4 times a year, Wing Commander Huet said. Two of the most significant exercises they participate in are Red Flag at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and Pitch Black and Talisman Saber in Australia. This was the first time the B-1s had participated in a RAAF exercise in Australian territory.

“Australian F/A-18 and F-111 aircraft participated in Red Flag in February this year,” he said. “We are hoping for U.S. participation in Exercise Pitch Black here in the second half of this year.”

Wing Commander Huet said the RAAF Weapon School benefits from combined training in many

ways. For instance, they can measure performance against capable, experienced USAF units to give them a good idea of their capability. Also, the aircrew are exposed to different aircraft and tactics, making training more realistic.

According to Captain Brooks, the overwhelming majority of 34th EBS officers had never worked with the Australian military before. But despite not knowing what to expect, he said they found the Australian forces to be incredibly competent, professional and more than willing to discuss the best ways to employ the B-1 in the ACES SOUTH scenario.

“I think the perspective we gained and the relationships we fostered will be a major benefit to any future operations with the Australian forces,” Captain Brooks said. “In the end, we all walked away from the exercise with some great lessons learned that will make us all better combat aviators.”

## PATRIOT, From A1

Combined Air Forces Band. Lee Greenwood, best known for his hit song “God Bless the USA,” will perform. Restless Heart will also perform some of their hit songs such as “Bluest Eyes in Texas,” “When She Cries” and “Feel My Way to You.”

For set-up of the stage and the event, traffic will not be able to go up or down Eighth or Ninth Streets. Julian and Porter Avenues will be closed off where they intersect with Hickam Elementary beginning at 4 p.m. Shuttles are available from the Burger King/BX parking lots. Food booths will be available.

## OPEN HOUSE, From A1

dents and Team Hickam members who are curious about the new homes being built for Hickam families. The home serves as an example of the larger living spaces being provided.

“We really want people to see what we’re bringing, what privatized new communities offer,” said Faye Tukes, HCH Earhart Village community manager. “While these homes are our Junior NCO design, we will be building larger models and delivering them to our families in the coming months and years.

Ms. Tukes also said none of the new HCH homes will have any fewer than three bedrooms and families can expect all new homes will be 20 to 40 percent larger than some of the existing inventory of homes at Hickam.

“We really see this as an opportunity to give people a glimpse of what’s in store for our community,” she said. It’s good for our families and it benefits Team Hickam.”

HCH staff will be available to answer any questions from Team Hickam members.



**Share the true spirit of sports**

Special Olympics Hawaii is currently recruiting volunteers for the 2006 State Summer Games May 26 to 28 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Special Olympic Athletes work very hard to overcome many challenges and they can with volunteer support. Team Hickam members can help to build self-esteem, instill pride and bring joy to the lives of hundreds of Special Olympics Hawaii Athletes. Whether volunteers are looking for inspiration, or want to inspire, Special Olympics can touch their lives. Volunteers can turn their “old into gold” by recycling their old cell phones for Special Olympics. Hickam members can help make a difference in the community by volunteering



for Special Olympics Hawaii. For more information, visit [www.specialolympicshawaii.org](http://www.specialolympicshawaii.org), or contact Cindy at 943-8808, extention 27.

*Two Hickam Airmen receive Articles 15*

15th Airlift Wing Legal Office

While punishments imposed for similar offenses may appear to vary from case-to-case, each case is decided based on a number of factors and on its own specific facts. Punishments vary, based on such factors as an offender’s age, prior work and disciplinary record, financial condition, suitability for continued

service and the level of severity of the particular offense committed. To ensure fair administration of justice throughout the Hickam community, the legal office reviews all cases. A staff sergeant was charged with two specifications of assault and battery, in violation of Article 128, Uniform Code of Military Justice. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction

to senior airman, 15 days extra duty, and a reprimand. A senior airman was charged with one specification of drunken driving, in violation of Article 111, UCMJ, one specification of dereliction of duty (underage consumption of alcohol), in violation of Article 92, UCMJ, and one specification of failure to obey a lawful order in violation of Article 92, UCMJ. Punishment con-

sisted of reduction to airman with reduction to airman basic suspended, suspended forfeiture of \$636 pay for two months, 30 days extra duty, 30 day restriction and a reprimand.

**Crime Scene**

**Shoplifting**

A family member of a Navy retiree was detained by Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$150.

**Damage to private property**

An active-duty Air Force member reported damages to his vehicle to security forces. Estimated cost of damage: \$1000.

**Damage to private property**

An Air Force family member reported damages to his vehicle to security forces.

**Hit and run and damage to private property**

An active-duty Air Force member contacted security forces to report his vehicle sustained scrapes, paint transfer and cracked head light lenses that might have caused by another vehicle.

**Theft of government property off base**

An Air Force civilian employee reported his vehicle base decal stolen from his vehicle off base.

**Damage to private property**

An active-duty Air Force member reported dam-

ages to the canopy in front of his yard to security forces.

**Burglary**

Two active-duty Air Force members contacted security forces to report witnessing two juveniles in their neighbor’s residence taking items from the refrigerator. Security forces apprehended both juveniles and transported them to the law enforcement desk for processing.

**Simple assault**

An Air Force civilian employee contacted security forces to report that a Navy military member approached him and stated an Air force civilian employee had struck him in the face. Security forces apprehended the individual and transported him to the law enforcement desk for processing.

**Damage to government property**

An active-duty Air Force member reported his government vehicle sustained several damages while parked at the Mamala Bay Golf Course.

**Theft of personal property**

An Air Force family member reported her son’s mountain bicycle stolen.



**Give us your feedback**

Tell us what you think, or would like to see in Kukini. Team Hickam members can submit letters to the editor to:

**[hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil](mailto:hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil)**

# Missile defense site named after President Reagan

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFPN)** – The missile defense site here took on a new name April 10. The Ronald W. Reagan Missile Defense Site honors the 40th president of the United States who was a champion of the need for missile defense.

Attendees at the ceremony included former First Lady Nancy Reagan; Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England; Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens; former California Gov. Pete Wilson; Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz, vice commander of Air Force Space Command; and Lt. Gen. Henry A. “Trey” Obering III, director of the Missile Defense Agency.

“President Reagan simply would not accept U.S. vulnerability to nuclear or ballistic missile attack,” General Obering said. “And so he called upon the scientific community in our country, those who gave us nuclear weapons, to turn their great talents now to the cause of mankind and world peace, to give us the means of rendering these nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete.”

A recurring theme through all the speeches was the lasting legacy

of President Reagan to our national defense.

“We are here today to celebrate the remarkable achievement of Ronald Reagan who will be remembered and revered for many things. But if you (could) ask him, I think he would tell you his greatest achievement was to safeguard the freedom and safeguard the people of the United States,” Senator Stevens said.

General Klotz spoke of the contributions of the Air Force Space Command team as an integral part of the nation’s missile defense. He mentioned several capabilities that support missile defense, including uninterrupted space-based early warning, launch ranges, communications, navigation and timing capabilities.

“Those of us who have spent time in the intercontinental ballistic missile business hold President Reagan in especially high regard,” General Klotz said. “His leadership at the height of the Cold War was the turning point toward achieving victory in that titanic struggle for peace and freedom. President Reagan was the driving force behind the deployment of the



Photo by Tech Sgt. Scott Seyer  
**Former First Lady Nancy Reagan is escorted by Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz and Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens at the Ronald W. Reagan Missile Defense Site dedication ceremony April 10.**

Peacekeeper missile in the 1980s ...The mission of the Peacekeeper and the vision of President Reagan (were) achieved without ever firing a shot in anger.”

The Ronald W. Reagan Missile Defense Site includes four silos. Two house interceptor missiles that, when activated, are part of the

overall ballistic missile defense system. The two other silos will be used for operationally realistic testing, but can also hold operational interceptors if required.

The current missile defense system also includes early warning satellites, powerful ground- and sea-based radars and an integrated

command, control and battle management element.

“Today, our nation has a limited, but real defensive capability against short, medium and long-range ballistic missiles,” General Obering said. “That reality is borne out by the long-term interceptors in the silos here and in Alaska, the Aegis ships with their sea-based interceptors, the powerful radars which we have brought online, and the professionally trained and certified crews manning the command and control consoles in Alaska, Hawaii, Colorado and Nebraska.”

The ceremony ended with a broadcast of President Reagan’s own words from a speech given March 23, 1983. The words also appear on the plaque under a bust of the president that was unveiled during the ceremony..

“Wouldn’t it be better to save lives than avenge them?” the president asked. “Are we not capable of demonstrating our peaceful intentions by applying all of our abilities and our ingenuity to achieving a truly lasting stability? I think we are indeed. Indeed, we must.”

## Airmen can track status of requests submitted to contact center via ‘My Stuff’

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – The new software used on the Air Force Personnel Center public Web site allows Airmen to track the status of requests and correspondence sent to the Air Force Contact Center via the ‘My Stuff’ tab.

Airmen need a separate user identification and password to

access My Stuff because it is inherent in the new software and cannot be accessed at this time via the reduced sign-on capability used by the Air Force Portal and the AFPC Secure site.

Members who did not receive this e-mail either already secured their account with a unique login and pass-

word or they have never corresponded with the contact center.

A generic account has already been established for all Airmen who have not yet interacted with the contact center, since they may be required to do so in the future . Members can personalize their generic account by visiting the

AFPC Public Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil> and following these instructions:

- Click the ‘My Stuff’ gray tab on the front page underneath the search box
- Type their generic user ID and click the ‘Email Me My Password’ button
- The generic user ID is the

member’s last name and last four digits of their social security number (ex. smith1234)

- Once the system e-mails the password the member can use their generic user ID and password to login and personalize their account by creating a unique user ID and password.
- Establishing the ‘My Stuff’

account will help Airmen track any requests, applications or questions they have sent to the Air Force Contact Center.

For questions or issues regarding establishing a ‘My Stuff’ account, call the contact center at 800-616-3775, option 1, option 1, option 2; commercial (210) 565-5000, or DSN 665-500

## NOTES, From A1

**Free Women's Self Defense Seminar** – There will be a free women's self defense seminar at the Hickam Fitness Center Exercise Room April 22 at 10:45 a.m. Tim Cotter, a firefighter/paramedic with Hickam Fire Emergency Services will conduct the seminar. He holds a first-degree black belt in the Korean martial art of Hapkido, which focuses on strong street defense. The seminar is open to women and children above the age of 8 years old. To pre-register contact 778-3089

**Blood drive** – Team Hickam and the 15th MSS are sponsoring a blood drive April 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hickam

Community Center. Walk-ins are welcome; however, appointments are highly encouraged. To schedule an appointment or for more information contact A1C Robert Simpson, at [robert.simpson@hickam.af.mil](mailto:robert.simpson@hickam.af.mil) or call 449-0680. Below is a brief summary of those ineligible to donate blood: Donated within last 2 months, cold within past 72 hours, tattoos or body piercings within past 12 months, certain vaccinations within past 4 weeks (please call for more info), dental cleaning within past 24 hours or extractions within 72 hours, been stationed or lived in Western Europe for 6 months or more (from 1980-1996), been stationed or lived in England for 3 months or more (from 1980-1996), been to various overseas locations, to include deployments (most deployments, including Afghanistan, Iraq, most of Saudi Arabia, and north Korea are deferred for 12 months).

Those who think they may be ineligible, contact the POC above, their unit blood drive representative, or Hickam Blood Program Co-Managers, Tech Sgt. Jennifer Breton at 449-2149 or Tech Sgt. Carrie Baker at 449-0259 to ascertain their eligibility. Eligibility information is available on the Hickam Blood page at <https://www.mil.hic.kam.af.mil/ja/limited/blooddrive/default.htm>.

**Masters degree offered**  
– The University of Oklahoma is offering a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics. It's Non-thesis program can be completed in about 18 months. The UO one-week classes are very TDY/TAD friendly. For more information contact UO at 449-6364 or aphick-am@ou.edu, or visit the UO website at [www.goou.ou.edu](http://www.goou.ou.edu).

**Hickam National Test Center** – The National Test Center offers College Level Examination Program exams to all members of the Department of Defense and their families. CLEP exams are free to active-duty, Reserves Guard, and family members of the Guard and Reserve forces. For all others, there is a \$20 administration fee and \$55 examination fee. The National Test Center on Hickam will offer exams on Mondays and Wednesdays, conducting three test sessions each day. To schedule an exam call Hawaii Pacific University at 422-1032

**National Military Family Association Family Award** – Nominations are currently being accepted online ([www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)) for the NMFA Family Award. A complete nomination includes a 500-750 word narrative and a completed Family Award Nomination Form. Essays should tell how the family being nominated works to represent the

**Amateur poetry open contest** – The Talent Literary Guild is sponsoring an amateur poetry contest, free to everyone. There are 50 prizes in all, including a \$1,000 grand prize.

"We are delighted to sponsor this contest," said Thomas Grey, poetry director.

"Poets deserve opportunities to share their work and get recognition. We hope our contest will encourage new poets to share their artistry."

To enter send one entry of 20 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., PMB 4, Ashland, OR 97520, or go to [www.freecontest.com](http://www.freecontest.com) via the internet.

Poems may be written on any subject, using any style. The deadline for entering is May 15, 2006. The editors reserve the right to publish the winning poems in a

pamphlet and send it free to all entrants, along with a winner's list.

**Give  
US  
your  
feed-  
back**

Team Hickam members can submit letters to the editor to

**hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.**

Tell us what you think or would like to see in Kukini



*Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).*

## Luke F-16 crashes

**LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFPN)** – An Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon assigned to the 56th Fighter Wing crashed Wednesday at about 9:51 a.m. during a routine training mission approximately two miles southwest of the base.

The pilot ejected safely and is being treated at a local medical center.

A board of officers will investigate the accident.

## Air war strategies preserve infrastructure

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)** – Aerial strategy practiced by coalition pilots during Operation Iraqi Freedom hinged on knocking out pertinent enemy targets while preserving vital Iraqi infrastructure and citizens' lives, said an F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot who flew combat missions over Iraq early in the war.

Military planners knew that anything destroyed from the air, like Iraqi roads, bridges and power-generating stations, would have to be rebuilt during the post-war period, said Major Norton, a 15-year military veteran who flew F-16s on active duty 10 years before joining the Guard.

"But more important than that," the 36-year-old said, was "the attention that was placed on minimizing civilian casualties, because in any war you do not target civilians."

## 'Virtual Commissary'

**FORT LEE, Va. (AFPN)** – The future is now at the Defense Commissary Agency. It's not the "final frontier" by a long shot, but DeCA's Virtual Commissary has been expanded to include 37 new item selections, including snack packs and special occasion baskets. This brings the total number of gift baskets on Virtual Commissary to 44 with more on the way.

"We began Virtual Commissary just before the holidays with seven gift baskets," said Patrick Nixon, chief executive officer and acting director of DeCA. "The customer reception was promising and now we're pleased to offer many more items, all at great prices."

Authorized commissary shoppers in the United States and military shoppers overseas can check it out at <http://www.commissaries.com>. Customers can check for availability of delivery to APO and FPO addresses as well as more information on what's in the gift baskets by

clicking on the image.

## Dental specialists train to deploy

**LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN)** – Dental specialists here trained in expeditionary field dentistry April 3 to 7. The training demonstrated how dentistry fits into the concept of deployable medical and dental assets and the expeditionary medical support, or EMEDS, facility.

"This training supports the heart of the Air Force medical readiness mission," said Col. Donald Sedberry, 59th Dental Squadron commander.

"This type of training is always a good experience," said Maj. (Dr.) Jesse Murillo, a periodontal resident. "It puts everything into perspective and gives you the chance to get used to the assembly and operation of our deployment equipment. You definitely don't want to be working in the field for the first time not knowing how everything works."

## Boston cardinal selects AF chaplain no. 2 post

**BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. (AFPN)** – The early 20th century American author Thomas Wolfe wrote a book titled "You Can't Go Home Again." That saying doesn't hold true for a priest in the Air Force chief of chaplains office.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Richard Erikson will be coming home again, courtesy of Cardinal Seán O'Malley of the Boston Archdiocese

"I was stunned," Chaplain Erikson said of the announcement.

The priest said he will be the principal administrator for the archdiocese, the number two position after the cardinal.

"It's similar to (chief executive officer)," the chaplain said.

Chaplain Erikson is currently a staff chaplain for plans and programs in the office of chief of chaplains here. In this job, Chaplain Erikson oversees Catholic ministries in the Air Force. He also provides mentoring and care for the other Catholic priests in the service.

He is the senior Catholic priest on the staff, serving as liaison between the archdiocese for the military and Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, chief of the Air Force Chaplain Service.

The chaplain, who is separating from the Air Force, also has 14 years in the Reserve. He plans to stay in the Reserve when he takes on his new job. During his career, Chaplain Erikson said deploying to Balad Air Base, Iraq, was his "greatest memory and greatest privilege."



Photo by Airman Angela Ruiz

## Weapons competition

Staff Sgt. Jason Murphy and Senior Airman Andrew Littleton load weapons during a crew competition at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., April 7. Each crew is rated on their time and efficiency when loading bombs onto the armament systems trainer. Both are aircraft armament systems specialists with the 34th Aircraft Maintenance Unit.



**Easter Brunch at  
Officer's Club**

Sunday, April 16. Adults; \$22.95, includes gratuity. \$2 Members First Discount. Children 7 - 12 years; \$10.50, includes gratuity. Children 3 - 6 years; \$5.95. Children 2 and under; free. Tickets are available now. Reservations are required. Call the Officers' Club for more information at 448-4608 x15.

**Easter Brunch at  
Enlisted Club**

Easter Brunch is April 16. The cost is \$22.95 per person. \$2 Members First Discount Tickets are available for purchase now. For more information, call the Enlisted Club at 448 - 2271.

**AF Reserve Command  
Patriot World Tour 2006  
- Lee Greenwood**

The 2006 Patriot World Tour is Monday from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Tower Mall. This free concert features Lee Greenwood, Restless Heart, New England Patriot Cheerleaders, Dick Hardwick and the AFRC Composite Band. Food booths will open at 5 p.m. Call the community center at 449-2361 for details.

**Fitness and sports  
Center**

Basic training class is scheduled Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 to 8 a.m. The class is a freestyle format which includes various aerobic and straight conditioning moves. The class is open to the public, however, active duty have priority.

**America's Armed Forces  
Kids Run**

Registration for this event is Monday to May 19. The

Kids Run is May 20 at 8 .m. and is held at Aloha Aina Park, next to Wright Brother's Café. Applications are available at Kidsports, the school age center, the community center or on-line at [www.americanskidsrun.org](http://www.americanskidsrun.org). For more information, call the school age center at 448-2319 or 448-4396.

**Fit Factor**

Fit Factor is a web-based program that encourages physical activity, healthy eating selections and rewards youth between the ages of 9 to 18 years old for their efforts. Visit the community center, bldg. 1859 to enroll. Add points for Fit Factor activities online at [www.afgetfit.com](http://www.afgetfit.com) on the "My Points" page. For more information, call Kids Sports at 448-8026.

**Month of the Military  
Child**

There is plenty for kids to do at the CDC. April is

reserved to celebrate our military children's lives. For more information, call the child development centers at 448-9880. For information on the Youth Programs, call 448-2296.

**Professional Bowlers  
Tournament**

Bowlers from the northwest region compete for the PBA title April 27 and 28. This two-day event is filled with entertainment and features "Meet the Pros" and "Bowl in the Pro Am" April 27. Winners of this tournament compete for the National Bowling Association Championship April 28 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Annual 54-Hole Hickam  
Invitational**

The Annual 54-Hole Hickam Invitation Golf tournament is May 5 to 7. The entry fee is \$145. The format for the tournament is stroke play. Entry deadline

is April 21 or until the field is full. For more information, call 448-2318.

**Learn to scuba dive  
and swim**

Throw pool parties and have fun shaping up in this water fitness course. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 449-5215. Sessions are either 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. A swim test will be given the first day of class. Summer registration is available now at Hickam Harbor. For more information call outdoor recreation at 449-5215.

**Youth ocean adventure**

This program costs \$170 and is designed for kids ages 10 to 18. Youth learn to sail, kayak, surf and windsurf; water safety instruction is also provided. Classes are June 12 to 23, July 10 to 21 and July 24 to Aug. 4.

**31st Annual Hickam  
Spring Craft Fair**

This year's fair is May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Get ready to participate in one of the biggest craft fairs on the island. Registration begins Saturday at 8 a.m. and ends May 5. A 15' x 15' space is \$65. Share the space with another participant and split the cost of \$85. All work must be handmade by the seller. For the mail-in application call the arts and craft center at 449-1568 extension 101.

**Zen meditation**

Two free Zen meditation workshops will be offered in April. The dates are April 22 and 29 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come to the community center for a free Zazen and Chi development workshop. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring towels or an exercise mat. For more information, call 449-3354.